

**Groton Open Space Association, Inc.**

P.O. Box 9187, Groton, CT 06340-9187

[www.GOSAonline.org](http://www.GOSAonline.org)

Rep. de la Cruz, Rep. Conley, Rep France, Sen. Somers, Sen. Osten  
February 12, 2017

Dear Groton and Ledyard Representatives and Senators,

Please oppose the 50% cut to the Community Investment Act in Governor Malloy's FY 2018-2019 budget, and please communicate your opposition to the leadership of your respective parties.

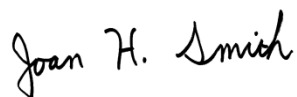
Please also oppose other cuts impacting the CT DEEP, including State Parks and the Council on Environmental Quality (an important environmental watch group, appropriated 0 funds in the proposed budget).

The CIA is a dedicated fund, established to provide a revenue source outside of the budget to provide consistent funding for reinvestment into our communities for open space, farmland/dairy support, historic properties and affordable housing projects. It is funded through a \$40 surcharge on local recording fees.

The CIA is critical to land conservation, and is the only consistent source of funding for the Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program. The continued cuts mean less money available to current and future grant rounds.

The CIA is an economic driver, supporting local and state economies through the outdoor recreation industry, and improving the quality of life through protection of natural resources and clean water.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan H. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joan Smith  
GOSA President